

some kind. I submit this is something we strongly oppose in Committee.

A number of people on this Committee went along with the county boundary change arrangement, that no county boundary can be changed without a mandatory referendum, only because this referendum is permissive and, not mandatory.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in favor?

DELEGATE KOSS: I would like at some point to have the opportunity to ask a question of Chairman Moser.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Macdonald.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: Do I have an opportunity to ask the sponsor of the amendment a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Will Delegate Cardin yield to a question?

DELEGATE CARDIN: I do.

DELEGATE MACDONALD: Delegate Cardin, if we pass this amendment, the sentence would then read, "The General Assembly shall provide referenda for any law establishing this regional government." How many referenda would that be?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Cardin.

DELEGATE CARDIN: I presume it would require referenda in those counties or areas affected by the newly proposed regional government.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Koss, you may put your question to Delegate Moser now, if he will yield to a question.

DELEGATE MOSER: I yield.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: I am tempted to say something else, but being a lady, I will not.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is this a question?

DELEGATE KOSS: In line 42, where you provide, "The General Assembly may provide referenda," I was wondering what the intention of the Committee was in terms of the extent of that referendum, because nowhere does it say "the counties involved," or anything like that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: The answer is that the General Assembly was intended to

be permitted to set up any type of referenda it wanted, as the situation might require. It presumably would not set one up, if it were simply to set up a popularly elected three-man governing board, for a transit authority or something like that.

On the other hand, if it were a question of a broad ranging, regional government that was multi-functional and took the water and sewer, transit, and garbage collection and a lot of other things, and were going to perform these functions in three counties, presumably there would be either a county-by-county referendum or a referendum of the entire region, whatever the General Assembly felt would properly fit the case.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: Then my understanding is that it is in the province of the General Assembly either to put this to referendum on a statewide basis or in the area concerned. That is their option?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: It is not intended that this affect the statewide basis referendum. As any public general law, presumably, it would be subject to statewide referendum automatically. It is not intended to limit that. It is an additional referendum. In other words, it would be a regional referendum or county by county referendum.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koss.

DELEGATE KOSS: According to my understanding, it is petitionable. But my question was whether there would be the opportunity for duplicate referendum on the same issues statewide.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Moser.

DELEGATE MOSER: The answer is there might be a statewide referendum, and there could also be a regional referendum if the legislature so desired.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other delegates who desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Any delegate—Delegate Hutchinson.

Delegate Pascal, do you desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

DELEGATE PASCAL: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates: I think we ought to recognize something, that when regional government is created we are also giving them the prerogative of taxing in the form of service charges in other items here listed.